

Serial No. 09/807,658
Art Unit 1742

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 10-36 are pending in the above-captioned matter. By this amendment, claims 1, 10, 25, 31, and 35 have been amended. After entry of this amendment, claims 1, 10 and 12-36 are pending, claims 1, 25, 31 and 35 being independent. No new matter has been added. Remarks made herein are based on the claims as amended hereby.

35 USC §103 Rejections

Claims 1, 10-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sako et al. (US 4,954,372) in view of Japanese Patent JP 07-116527 A.

The '372 patent teaches a hydrophilicizing composition that requires as a first water soluble polymer at least 40 number % of acrylamide moiety containing molecules.

In contrast, Applicants' claims are directed to a first hydrophilic polymer that does not contain this amount of acrylamide moiety containing polymer.

JP '572 is directed to hydrophilicizing composition which requires acrylic acid polymer and silicon. There is no teaching or suggestion to use the hydrophilic non-ionic functional group containing polymer of Applicant. This is different from applicants' invention and the '372 patent. Neither reference teaches the unique combination of polymers of Applicant.

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no teaching or suggestion in either reference of how to modify the '372 patent to achieve Applicants' invention as claimed. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 USC §103 should be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant requests reconsideration in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein, a copy of the claims showing the amendments made is attached hereto as an appendix. Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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